

PEET TO REV. DR. PADEN.

Editor Truth:—

The poet Carleton said:

"When a man wins men's esteem
And thrives by their mistakes,
He makes himself a bigger fool
Than all the fools he makes."

We have a class of men who claim they came to Utah as messengers of Christ; men who claimed they were called of God to go forth in all the world to preach the gospel; men who claim they came here in a spirit of love to make men, women and children better; to heal bleeding wounds and make the rough places smooth; to create harmony in the place of discord. These preachers and missionaries were kindly received by the people of Utah. These preachers thought they would find the people of Utah ignorant, debased, sensual, heathenish, irreligious to such a degree that even a 2x4 preacher could shed a ray of light among them; but on arriving here they saw their great mistake; saw that Utah was up to date and it would require highly educated, progressive preachers to cope with the situation. They did not want to go back east; they wanted their mission money, so instead of holding revivals and trying to make people better, they have hunted up the real and imaginary mistakes of the Mormons and on these they are trying to thrive. If they could not find any Mormon mistakes bad enough they invented what they needed. Dr. W. M. Paden is great on magnifying Mormon mistakes. He also has a superior faculty for inventing new and sensational falsehoods and getting them printed in the eastern newspapers. I have a few of his interviews before me and it will be a surprise to most of the Gentiles of this state to know that Dr. Paden would cause to be published to the world the untruths he has to injure this state and her people. But the old saying is "murder will out and will finally get back to the one who used the dagger."

In November, 1903, Dr. Paden went to New York, Pennsylvania and other states to help keep Senator Smoot out of the senate. This was after John L. Leilich had sworn that Senator Smoot was a polygamist. Dr. Paden tried by innuendo to impress upon the people that John L. Leilich told the truth. In the Philadelphia Press of Nov. 21, 1903, Dr. Paden said (and I give each paragraph in its entirety) "Concerning the charge that Mr. Smoot was a polygamist—Dr. Paden said that he himself was an agnostic; he has no proof that Mr. Smoot is a polygamist and neither he nor the Ministerial association is willing to make or endorse such a charge. Utah Gentiles, however, consider is remarkable if not incredible that a man should be a member of the Mormon apostolate and yet not live in polygamous relations. The majority of the other twelve apostles and President Joseph F. Smith," says Dr. Paden, "are known to be doing so."

On November 22, in an interview in the Press, the reporter asks: "Dr. Paden, is Apostle Smoot a polygamist?"

"I have never said so," was the reply. "I would not say so until I have had in my possession evidence which would be accepted by the senate committee on elections and privileges. I have heard this and I have heard that and some persons make the unqualified assertion that he is, but the Ministerial association refuses to endorse any such statement. True we cannot see how Apostle Smoot can live his religion or go on to perfection as a member of the supreme body of the church without doing as most of his fellow apostles openly do, practice polygamy. He would only be in accord with the present teachings and practices of his church were he to do so."

John L. Leilich made an unqualified statement that Senator Smoot was a polygamist. Dr. Paden tried to convict him on circumstantial evidence and make the world believe it. It is well known to all that Dr. Paden is not a married man. There are many places where they do not employ married men. Suppose that Dr. Paden should apply for such a position and someone would ask Senator Smoot, "Is Dr. Paden a married man?" and Senator Smoot should reply: "I am an agnostic. I have heard this and I have heard that and some persons make the unqualified statement that he is. Utah Mormons, however, consider it remarkable, if not incredible that a man should be a member of the Ministerial association and yet not live in the married state. True, we cannot see how Preacher Paden can live his religion ("Multiply and replenish the earth") or go on to perfection as a member of the Ministerial association without doing as they all do for they are all married except Preacher Paden. 'For the Lord God said it is not good that man should be alone. I will make him an helpmeet for him.' And the much married Mr. Solomon said in his Proverbs: 'Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favor of the Lord,' and 'for that reason people believe that Preacher Paden has a wife somewhere—perhaps out in Pennsylvania. Preacher Paden cannot be living in accordance with the laws of God and the Ministerial association unless he has a wife.'"

Senator Smoot could get this last statement verified by every Presbyterian old maid in Salt Lake City.

On November 24, 1903, Dr. Paden said in the Philadelphia Press: "Of all the thousand and one phases of this Mormon matter the one which most interests the investigator is the principal present-day revelation. At first glance this seems merely a matter of doctrine or of church practices. When I was told in Salt Lake City of its practical bearings upon, say, the administration of justice, it became a different thing altogether. Here is a way a Gentile business man put it to me, and by a Gentile I do not mean a member of a Protestant church, for this man is not such. In Utah everybody who is not a Mormon is a Gentile. Paradoxically there even Jews are Gentiles. 'Suppose said my acquaintance, a Mormon is on trial for a crime with twelve Mormons in the jury box, and in some parts of the state the people are almost solidly Mormon. The evidence is clear. But along comes one of the priesthood who testifies that he has received a revelation that the accused is innocent. That settles it. The latter-day revelation is accepted as final by a good Mormon and the guilty man goes free. Do you, not see how this peculiar tenet enables them to nullify all laws and sacred pledges. I tell you," continued Dr. Paden growing somewhat excited, if the Mormons once get control of the judiciary in this state—and they have everything else, I shall hire a special train to carry me and my family beyond the borders as quickly as steam can make a locomotive go."

Dr. Paden, what an awful traitorous falsehood you told the people in Pennsylvania in the above. You cannot mention a case in all the history of Utah where a culprit was released on a Mormon revelation, where a revelation was ever used to influence a jury or judge, and yet you said it is a present-day revelation and has a practical bearing on courts of justice. You cannot mention a Mormon judge who ever let a revelation interfere with his decision. You further say that the Mormons have control of everything else in this state but the judiciary. How about the mines, smelters, railroads, telegraphs, telephones, Salt Lake city schools, wholesale jobbing houses,

banks, etc. Don't you think you would have to charter a special train to take you and your numerous family out of this state? Here is another false and remarkable statement that Dr. Paden made on the above date, speaking of Senator Smoot. "It is that as a member of the oathbound body of leading Mormons, those who have been through the Temple—that mysterious greystone building in Temple square, Salt Lake City, into which no Gentile has ever set foot, and have sworn to obey and execute the decrees of the church, and to avenge the blood of the prophets Joseph and Hyrum Smith, and to teach their children and their children's children unto the third and fourth generation so to do (the people of the United States being all included among the slayers of these prophets). Mr. Smoot is an enemy of the government. This secret society is manifold more stringent in its secrecy and its workings than any of the commoner forms of secret societies."

Dr. Paden, you know the above was absolutely false. You did not qualify your statement, but told it as an absolute fact. If there had been even a ghost of truth in it you would have gone to Washington and placed it before the investigating committee. You willfully and diabolically put Senator Smoot and the people of Utah in a false and debasing light before the world. You positively stated that Senator Smoot has taught his children to avenge the blood of Hyrum and Joseph Smith on all the Gentiles of the United States. What a vile unnatural statement. Dr. Paden, if you had a child of your own and had that love that only a parent can have for his offspring, you would see how very absurd your statement was. Did you ever think of the great love that a parent has for a child, how it is the wish and prayer of every father and mother, whether Mormon or Gentile, that their children be kind, loving, gentle, thoughtful of others and that no hatred, jealousy or vengeance should ever enter their minds? Senator Smoot has six children and on them his heart, his soul and his every day thoughts have been that they would grow up good, honest, kind and unvengeful men and women. Dr. Paden, before you make any more statements in regard to Mr. Smoot's children you had better go to Provo and spend a day in Mr. Smoot's home. Go there at supper time when the family is gathered around the table at the evening meal. Notice the loving thoughtful care the father and mother have over the little group around the table. Notice the little girl who has seen six summers of life. Christ said "of such is the kingdom of heaven." As the shades of night begin to gather, notice how the "sand man" and "wink and blink and nod" are pulling "cobwebs" over her eyes, see how carefully he puts her to bed, then listen to the small sweet voice "Now I lay me down to sleep." And in the morning when the sun "cometh leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills," at the hour of the day when the birds sing their sweetest songs and all nature is glad, this little girl runs to her father and says: "Papa, get up and see the bright sun and the morning glories under the window." Dr. Paden, you said Senator Smoot has compelled this little idol of the heart and the household to raise her small chubby hand up and swear to avenge the blood of Joseph and Hyrum Smith on the Gentiles of this nation. What a frightful, ugly thought for a minister of the gospel.

While in Pennsylvania in January and June this year I saw many evidences of Dr. Paden's numerous interviews. Many people saved the papers for they thought what this preacher said was true; they wanted to warn

their friends not to come to Utah, this modern Sodom and Gomorrah, as Dr. Paden pictured it.

Here is another statement from this "fighting parson" as the Philadelphia Press dubbed Dr. Paden. The reporter said in the November 24th issue: "I marvel at the matter especially as he (Dr. Paden) recalls the old days of the Mountain Meadow massacre and other crude exhibitions of Mormon temporal power, and as he told me of the limits to which the endowment house oaths go. Sometimes he would read from his voluminous array of documents in substantiation of his statements. The judicial cast of mind is strong within him, but even he was careful and conservative. I have heard blood curdling statements from missionary leaders concerning Mormonism and they evidently were not half as well posted as this soft spoken man who looks much more like a poet than a warrior. Something of this sort was mentioned—reasons for cautiousness. 'Ah, you see,' he said, 'I have to go back and live with the people. The man in Philadelphia or New York may utter all sorts of general condemnations of Mormonism without ever being called to account but every word I speak in the east through the press will go straight back to Salt Lake where I must substantiate it.' Dr. Paden, your statements are now back to Salt Lake and if you do not substantiate them you will be branded as a bearer of false witness and a traitor to the men, women and children of Utah.

Yours truly,

V. S. PEET,

Salt Lake City, Sept. 21, 1905.

A Riddle.

There stands a palace on a hill,
A splendid, costly pile,
Where servants do his bidding who
Lives there in lordly style.

A little way beyond there stands
A weather-beaten shack,
And they that occupy it sigh
For comforts that they lack.

Now think a space and guess which place
'Tis that he occupies
Who from experience believes
It pays to advertise.

The Rainbow.

Troubles come to try him,
But you never heard him sigh;
Always saw a rainbow
Runnin' roun' the sky!

Hurricane a-howlin'—
Thunder roarin' loud,
"Wait awhile! A rainbow
Is comin' out the cloud!"

That's the way to see it
In your loss or gain—
All the time a rainbow
Runnin' roun' the rain!

—Atlanta Constitution.

Victims of Official Pleasure.

The viceroy of the Two Kuang provinces, China, recently put out a proclamation that no pawnshop was to take arms in pawn. Being later himself in need of funds, he sent his own agents with arms to pledge. Five shops accepted them; and these afterward paid fines in the amount of \$7,250 each.

Poets and Irresponsibility.

Poets are wayward creatures, largely irresponsible for their actions, or, at all events, provided with such a curiously sensitive and inflammable organization that we feel it would be unjust to judge them by ordinary standards.—London Telegraph.

Don't Forget That—

Self-pity is one of the states that interferes most effectually with making the right use of circumstances. To pity one's self is destruction to all possible freedom.—Exchange.